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**MINUTES OF THE 171<sup>st</sup> MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA  
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 2024 AT 9.00 AM**

- PRESENT: Her Excellency the Governor, Ms. Julia Crouch
- The Honourable Premier and Minister for Finance, Economic Development & Investment and Health, Dr. Ellis Webster
- The Honourable Deputy Governor, Mr. Perin Bradley
- The Honourable Minister for Home Affairs, Immigration, Labour, Human Rights, Constitutional Affairs, Information and Broadcasting, Lands and Physical Planning, Mr Kenneth Hodge
- The Honourable Minister for Infrastructure, Communications, Utilities, Housing and Tourism, Mr Haydn Hughes
- The Honourable Minister of Sustainability, Innovation and Environment, AND Acting Minister for Social Development, Cultural Affairs, Youth Affairs, Gender Affairs, Education and Library Services, Mrs Quincia Gumbs-Marie
- The Honourable Attorney General, Mr Dwight Horsford via telephone
- Acting Clerk to Executive Council, Ms Jennyville Smith
- IN ATTENDANCE: The Honourable Parliamentary Secretary, Mr Merrick Richardson
- Financial Advisor, Mr. Evarist Mwesigye
- The Head of the Governor's Office, Mr Orlando Ames-Lewis
- ABSENT: The Honourable Minister for Social Development, Cultural Affairs, Youth Affairs, Gender Affairs, Education and Library Services, Ms Dee-Ann Kentish-Rogers

**EX MIN 24/021**

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

Hon Parliamentary Secretary and Head of the Governor's Office remained

Council confirmed the Minutes of the 170<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Executive Council held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**EX MIN 24/022**

**EX MEMO 24/15 Amend Business Companies Regulations for Additional Suffixes as set out in this Memorandum**

Hon Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Adviser and Head of the Governor's Office remained.

The following persons joined:

Ms. Marisa Harding-Hodge, PAS, FIN

Mr. Lanston Connor, Registrar of Companies

The Premier and Registrar of Companies briefed Council. In recent years, the digital landscape has witnessed a profound transformation, with online presence becoming a crucial aspect of business identity and recognition. Against this backdrop, the ".ai" domain has emerged as a global symbol, not only signifying the jurisdiction of Anguilla but also gaining international recognition in the realms of technology, artificial intelligence, and innovation.

As Anguilla gains prominence on the international stage, there is a growing need to align our business framework with the evolving features of the global marketplace. The ".ai" domain, with its widespread recognition, offers a unique opportunity for businesses incorporated in Anguilla to secure names that resonate not only with the jurisdiction but also with their exact .ai domain counterparts. This alignment is crucial for establishing a cohesive and distinctive online identity, ensuring that Anguillian businesses are readily identifiable and competitive in the ever-expanding digital ecosystem.

The suffix the .AI will signify Anguilla Incorporated.

Council:

1 Approved the addition of the following suffixes to be made available for use within companies incorporated in Anguilla :

- AI.
- .AI.
- Anguilla Incorporated.

- AI.SEZ.
- AISEZ.
- AILTD.
- AI.Ltd.
- AI.Inc.
- AI.Co.
- .Co.Ai.

2 Instructed the Attorney General Chambers to prepare the necessary regulations under the Business Companies Act to give effect to the same.

Action: PS, FIN; PAS, FIN; HON, PREM; HON, AG

**EX MIN 24/023**

**EX MEMO 24/16 Amendments to Legislative Framework to improve the effectiveness of International Cooperation for Tax purposes – TIE Act and International Tax Compliance (Common Reporting Standard) Regulations, 2016**

Hon Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Adviser and Head of the Governor’s Office remained.

The following persons joined:

Ms. Marisa Harding-Hodge, PAS, FIN

Ms. Nordisia D. Lake, Director, International Tax Cooperation

Ms. Dilece Connor, International Tax Cooperation Officer

The Premier and PAS, Finance briefed Council. The Common Reporting Standard (CRS) calls on jurisdictions to obtain information from their financial institutions and automatically exchange that information with other jurisdictions on an annual basis. In furtherance of Anguilla’s commitment to fighting tax evasion, Anguilla joined with a group of other OECD member states in adopting the Common Reporting Standard. The declaration broadly affirms the endorsers’ intention to adopt the OECD Standard for Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information (the Standard) “swiftly, on a reciprocal basis” and calls upon “all financial centres to implement the new single global standard without delay.” Anguilla is part of a subset of ‘early adopters’ committed to initiating first exchanges in 2017.

Anguilla is currently set to undergo the Second round of Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) Effectiveness Peer Review in Quarter 3 of 2024 with the on-site date currently pending.

The amendments proposed to the Tax Information Exchange (International Cooperation) Act and International Tax Compliance (CRS) Regulations allow for a more efficient process of compliance with the OECD Standard for Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information in Tax Matters especially Core Requirement 1 of the Terms of Reference for AEOI reviews. This requirement highlights the need to have an enforcement framework in place and to ensure that it is being carried out effectively in practice.

The amendment also seeks to change the definition of “Competent Authority” for the purposes of the International Tax Compliance (CRS) Regulations to mean the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance or his delegate. This is correct per the agreement (multilateral) as is in practice delegated to the International Tax Cooperation, which is more efficient.

Currently, financial institutions are not required to file an information return for no reportable accounts but it is strongly advised by the competent authority. The amendment to add the requirement to file nil returns helps support the compliance activities of the ITC unit and provides a greater understanding of the universe of Financial Institutions including whether they have reporting obligations.

Council:

- 1 Noted Anguilla’s Second Round of Automatic Exchange of Information Effectiveness Peer Review will commence in Quarter 3 of 2024;
- 2 Approved in principle amendments to the Tax Information Exchange legislation to improve the effectiveness of compliance activities to meet the AEOI standard; and
- 3 Approved the release of the draft Bill and associated regulations for consultation with stakeholders in the industry for two weeks.

Action: PS, FIN; PAS, FIN; HON, PREM; HON, AG

**EX MIN 24/024**

**EX MEMO 24/17 Approval of the Entrustment Letter to Progress the Implementation of Advance Cargo Information System (ACIS) and Advance Passenger Information System (APIS).**  
Hon Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Adviser and Head of the Governor’s Office remained.

Mr. Kiel Connor, Comptroller of Customs joined the meeting.

The Premier and Comptroller of Customs briefed Council. As the global arena continues to evolve and present challenges, Anguilla must advance its infrastructure to meet these demands. In this light, there is a pressing need to fortify our border control mechanisms through systems such as the Advanced Cargo Information System (ACIS) and the Advance Passenger Information System (APIS). Both the ACIS and APIS are internationally recognized systems that offer enhanced security measures for air travel and cargo.

The ACIS facilitates the collection, assessment, and management of cargo data before the cargo's arrival, ensuring swift and secure cargo clearance processes. While, the APIS allows for the early acquisition and processing of passenger data before their arrival or departure, significantly improving the efficiency of border controls and the identification of potential security threats.

Council:

- 1 Noted the associated legal implications;
- 2 Approved the draft Entrustment Letter for execution by the Foreign Commonwealth Office (FCO) the Governor of Anguilla.

Action: PS, FIN; PAS, FIN; HON, PREM; Compt. of Cus.

**EX MIN 24/025**

**EX MEMO 24/18 Application for issue of Licence under the Aliens Land Holding Regulation Act – Barry John Leddy - Registration Section: East End, Block 99315 B, Parcel 286 Being 0.49 of an acre**

Hon Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Adviser and Head of the Governor's Office remained.

Council agreed to approve the granting of an Aliens Land Holding Licence to Barry Leddy to hold on a freehold basis, property situated in Registration Section East End Block 99315 B, described as Parcel 286 being 0.49 of an acre of land located at Sea Feathers, Anguilla for residential purposes, with a dwelling house thereon, subject to the following:

(a) Payment of the following Stamp Duties:

- (i) under Section 14(3) of the Aliens Land Holding Licence Act EC\$200.00

(ii) Stamp Duty on Transfer	<u>EC\$ 20.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>EC\$220.00</u></b>

(b) With the express condition that the land is to be used for residential purposes.

(c) The Licensee must not rent their dwelling house without first notifying the Economic Development, Investment, Commerce, Information Technology & Natural Resources to rent the said property.

(d) The Licensee shall fully comply with the laws of Anguilla enforced from time to time including the Land Development Control Act, the Property Tax Act, the Building Regulations, the Labour Relations Act 2018 and Work Permit Regulations, the Social Security Act, the Immigration and Passport Regulations and any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof and any rules or regulations made there under.

Council authorised the issue of the Action Sheet before confirmation of the Minutes.

Action: PS, HA; DLS; HON, MIN HA

**EX MIN 24/026**

**EX MEMO 24/19 Application for Issue of Licence under the Aliens Land Holding Regulation Act – Recap Axa Sunshine Land Holdings Inc. – Registration Section: West Central, Block 28210 B, Parcel 29 Being 2 acres**

Hon Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Adviser and Head of the Governor’s Office remained.

EX MIN 24/009 refers to the approved Aliens Land Holding Licence granted to Recap AXA Sunshine Land Holdings Inc., through its Directors, Sanjeev Kumar Verma, Ramnil Chopra, and Vincenzo Panzarino, to hold on a freehold basis property situated in Registration Section: West Central, Block 28210 B, Parcel 29 subject to clauses 1 -10. Council approved the amendment to the ALHL to include clause 11 as follows:

11. The development is to be completed within thirty-six (36) months. If said development is not completed at the end of thirty-six (36) months, a charge of US\$3,500.00/EC\$9,408.70

per month is charged for each month the project remains uncompleted for up to a period of twenty-four (24) months. Thereafter, the commencement of forfeiture proceeding, immediately forthwith.

Council authorised the issue of the Action Sheet before confirmation of the Minutes.

Action: PS, HA; DLS; HON, MIN HA

**EX MIN 24/027      EX MEMO 24/20 Approval of Groundwater and Seawater Abstraction Regulations 2024**

Hon Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Adviser and Head of the Governor's Office remained.

Council deferred this matter for the next sitting.

Action: PS, MICUHT; HON, MIN MICUHT; HON, AG

**ORAL MENTION**

**EX MIN 24/028      The Redevelopment of Landsome Bowl Cultural Centre (LBCC)**  
Hon Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Adviser and Head of the Governor's Office remained.

Minister Kentish-Rogers via telephone, Dr. Bonnie Richardson-Lake, PS, Social Development and Mr. Courtney Morton, Specialist Assistant to the Premier, joined the meeting.

Minister Sustainability, Innovation and Environment and PS Social Development briefed Council as to the preliminary submission.

Council noted the submission and supporting documents and further issues that needed to be addressed.

Action: PS, SD, HON, MIN SD, HON, MIN MSIE

**EX MIN 24/029      APPOINTMENT OF FINANCIAL ADVISOR**

The Governor introduced the newly appointed Financial Advisor to the Government of Anguilla, Mr. Evarist Mwesigye.

Action: CLK, EXCO; EXCO MEMBERS

**EX MIN 24/030**

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING**

The Governor acknowledged the presence of the newly appointed Financial Advisor to the Government of Anguilla, Mr. Evarist Mwesigye.

A change in the meeting date for Executive Council from Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2024, to allow for the Live Crisis Exercise.

Action: CLK, EXCO; EXCO MEMBERS

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